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REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were originally presented in the subject application. Claim 19 was added in a Response to Office Action dated August 18, 2004, claim 20 was added in a Response to Office Action dated December 23, 2004, and claims 1-2, 4-5 and 7-20 were amended in an Amendment and Response to Office Action dated November 3, 2005. Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 and 17-19 have herein been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject invention. Claim 20 has herein been canceled without prejudice. No claims have herein been added. Therefore, claims 1-19 remain in this case.

The addition of new matter has been scrupulously avoided. In that regard, support for the common amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of these remarks, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the sole remaining ground of rejection.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

The final Office Action and the Advisory Action maintained the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as allegedly anticipated by Martenson (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,708). Applicant respectfully, but most strenuously, traverses this rejection as it applies to the amended claims.

With respect to an anticipation rejection, it is well settled that a claimed invention is not anticipated unless a single prior art reference discloses: (1) all the same elements of the claimed invention; (2) found in the same situation as the claimed invention; (3) united in the same way as the claimed invention; (4) in order to perform the identical function of the claimed invention. In this instance, Applicant submits that Martenson fails to disclose at least one element of each of the independent claims and as a result does not anticipate, or even render obvious, Applicant's invention.

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Amended claim 1 recites a remote control system. The system comprises a terminal device having a control program, and a server coupled to said terminal device. The server is configured to transmit control data to the control program for controlling the terminal device and register three-dimensional model data representing the terminal device. The system further comprises a client coupled to the server, the client configured to receive and render the three-dimensional model data and to transmit to the server update three-dimensional model data for the rendered three-dimensional model data, the update data reflecting an operation on the rendered three-dimensional model data corresponding to an operation to be performed on the terminal device. The server is further configured to receive the update data and transmit, in response to receiving the update data, corresponding operation control data to the control program in order to effect remote control of the terminal device by the client.

Claim 1 has been amended to make clear that the update data is three-dimensional model data for the rendered three-dimensional model data (Applicant submits that "render" in this context means creating a visual), reflecting an operation on the rendered three-dimensional model data corresponding to an operation desired to be performed on the terminal device. Thus, altogether, claim 1 relates to remote control of a terminal device via manipulation of a rendered three-dimensional model representing the terminal device.

In contrast, Martenson discloses browser-based management of network resources using options lists. While Martenson mentions VRML for viewing the system, Applicant respectfully submits that simply viewing something in 3D is not the same as remotely controlling a terminal device via updating three-dimensional model data representing the terminal device, as claimed. Any remote control in Martenson is done via the list of options presented to the user, and not by updating any modeling data representing the device being controlled, let alone three-dimensional model data. The mechanism used for remote control is simply different, and mentioning VRML for viewing the system alone is simply not enough.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 cannot be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

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Claims 4, 11, 14, 15, 17 and 18 each contain an aspect of three-dimensional model data representing a terminal device. Thus, the remarks made above with respect to claim 1 apply equally to those claims. Therefore, Applicant submits that none of claims 4, 11, 15, 17 or 18 can be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

Applicant submits that the dependent claims are allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they directly or ultimately depend, as well as for their additional limitations.

For example, amended claim 2 recites that the control program of the terminal device interprets the operation control data for the operation of the terminal device, and transmits, to the server, control data for reflecting operating results for the operation on the terminal device.

Against claim 2, the Advisory Action cites to Martenson at column 11, line 15 to column 12, line 60. The cited section of Martenson discloses different ways to select which devices will have operations performed on them. It also discloses initial configuration of the devices, and selection of "characteristics" thereof. There is no disclosure regarding a terminal device sending operating results to a server for the operation performed thereon (which, as set forth in claim 1, is initiated by client operation on a rendered three-dimensional model representing the terminal device).

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 2 cannot be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

As another example, amended claim 19 recites that a second client is coupled to the server, for employing a web browser to designate a URL for the three-dimensional model data, and for downloading the three-dimensional model data so as to share the three-dimensional model data with the client. Claim 19 further recites that the second client is configured to render the three-dimensional model data, and that the server further comprises a module for recording an operation performed by a user on the rendered three-dimensional model data as a three-dimensional operation event and for replaying, as needed, the three-dimensional operation event. Claim 19 depends from claim 1, which recites that the operation is reflected by updating three-

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dimensional model data. Therefore, the server is recording three-dimensional model data for replaying.

Claim 19 has been amended to make clear that the second client is configured to render the three-dimensional model data, that the recording is of an operation performed by a user on the rendered three-dimensional model data, and that the recording is three-dimensional. Applicant submits this is not disclosed in Martenson.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 19 cannot be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

Claim 7 includes limitations similar to those argued above with respect to claim 19. Thus, the remarks made above with respect to claim 19 apply equally to claim 7. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 7 cannot be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

As another example, amended claim 8 recites that the module employs recording/replaying software to record, as a three-dimensional VRML operation event, an operation performed by a user on the terminal device that is generated via a VRML browser, and replays and displays the VRML operation event via the VRML browser.

Against the VRML record/replay aspect of claim 8, the final Office Action cites to Martenson at column 5, lines 31-34 and column 6, line 6. However, the cited sections of Martenson disclose data and fault logging. Applicant submits that looking at a two-dimensional log is simply not the same as recording and replaying an operation on a terminal device as a VRML event (necessarily three-dimensional, and now specifically recited as such).

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 8 cannot be anticipated by, or made obvious over, Martenson.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the dependent claims not specifically addressed herein are allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they directly or ultimately depend, as well as for their additional limitations.

For all the above reasons, Applicant maintains that the claims of the subject application are patentable over the cited art, and earnestly requests allowance of claims 1-19.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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